tain set to pay morning or evening calls by yacht conveyance, wherever triends and acquaintances could be so reached at various points of the island, coming in again this season, though the excuse of the burning drought and the blinding dust of last year is wanting this summer. There was a good deal of "going out of the way" and a doubling of distance for this notion, but It was,

SOMETHING NEW, and that was enough. Perhaps if the young Rhode Islanders' recent invention—a paper boat light enough to be carried like the famous Rob Roy, on the shoulders-shall come into general use, we may yet see a party of summer visitors coming over from Bateman's to the Point, on Washington street, and, picking up their boat, ske another détour through the town, going over to Compton, persaps, or to some other quarter equally divergent. Beautiful as Newport is, the arse watering of some of the most lovely streets, bowery places which entice every pleasure driver, makes one long for some new dispensation of law and order, and even tyranny, in the way of water privileges. As for the Fort drive, where we follow meekly in each others dust, as Georgo Curtis said years ago, and which can be said just as truly of -day, who would think of taking it after the charming experience of sailing over in a pretty, sushioned boat, and then strolling about "spick and span," with no grain of soil on skin or raiment. One can make just as fine a toilet in these yacht sailers-finer for that matter, for there is no crush of skirts, no cloud of sand to filter through. But the owners of fine phaetons and resplendent landans and blood horses will follow meekly this year as years before in everybody's dust, no matter what discomfort may result therefrom, for the sake of displaying their splendors. Speaking of horses

THE LITTLE NORWEGIAN SPAN owned by Dr. Channing, the only specimen of the breed in Newport. They are pretty cream-colored ponies, with white manes tipped with black, cut from birth, until they stand up like a fox brush, and the fore legs zebra striped. Tue Doctor is one of the heirs of the great Gibos estate, which, lying in trust so many years, has run up into the millions of accumulation by the yearly increase of land values. All the land lying over between the first and second beaches and out towards the Hanging Rocks, and back townward over the hill by the Marquand place is or was pretty much all the property of the Gibos heirs.

house is built on land bought from this estate two years ago. A number of lots have been sold and fine houses erected upon them, but still miles away stretches the Giobs estate to the border land of the beaches. When the visitor of to-day looks upon this goodly expanse of waving fields and rich pastures, which, every season growing richer in moneyal estimates.

years ago. A number of fots have been sold and fine houses erected upon them, but still miles away stretches the Globs estate to the border land of the beaches. When the visitor of to-day looks upon this goodly expanse of waving fields and rich pastures, which, every season growing richer in moneyed estimates until they are becoming veritably "the fat of the land," trust properties seem to be the finest things in the world. Forty years ago, before Newport had begun to think of building back over the hill and beachward, the prospect probably did not look so alluring. But to live lurther beachward than the Cliffs even to-day is to live out of the range of lady social visiting; and though one may admire the Doctor's view from the villa beyond the first beach, and agree that it is a very pretty thing to drive in to town across shore behind the little Norwegians, yet when night falls and the kerosene lamp is lighted, there will come a vam longing for Newport gas, which only lies a hand's breadth away, as it were, and the sound of the band at the Ocean House and other town delights. The Bockan House is the head centre of hotel life this year, opening mucn earlier than beaul on account of the closing of the Atlantic. It is by no means filled yet, though it is the only hotel in the city of any pretensions. But ever endow the city of any pretensions, But ever endow the first properties of the properties of the common that the last one rage. Latterly the cottage and villar life has overborne this furor, and New Orleans, instead of coming in force as formerly to the "inst floors" and the "plazza rooma," rent Cliff cottages or avenue villas. The beginning of all this decline is to be traced to the "notel prices," which went up and up and up, and never came down where one could make any computation of them except—on the bill. There has been an attempt to change this sufficiently to remove the giant growth of prejudice; but the "rented hou

THE JEWELLED PROFILE

NEW YO

NE WPORT.

The Bijou City by the Sea Opens the Season.

A MODERN CLEOPATRA'S GALLEY.

Something About Horses and Real Estate.

Something About Horses and Real Estate.

Solving A CONUNDRUM

How Moderate Living Can Be Had at Newport.

Nayroar, July 5, 1874.

The "season" may be said to have fairly commenced here, though the run of transient travel has not yet set in. We may look for that a the hater part of the month and all through August. In "be meantime whe required"—that is the contempted of the part of the month and all through August. In "be meantime whe required"—that is the contempted of the part of the month and all through August. In "be meantime where required"—that is the cottempted of the part of the month and all through August. In "be meantime where required"—that is the cottempted of the part of the month and all through August. In "be meantime where required"—that is the cottempted of the part of the month and all through August. In "be meantime where required"—that is the cottempted of the part of the month and all through August. In "be meantime where required"—that is the cottempted of the part of the month of the part of the month and all through August. In "be meantime where required"—that is the cottempted of the part of the month and all through August. In "be meantime where required"—that is the cottempted of the part of the month and all through August. In "be meantime where required"—that is the cottempted of the part of the month of the part of the part of the month of the part of the month of the part of the part of the month of the part of the month of the part of the part of the part of the month of the part of the part of the part of the month of the part of the month of the part of

where she can buy, not unreasonably, everything from

A FRENCH HAT

to a shoestring. Newport in the season offers something to everybody. If you are bine and bookisn you can go up to the old Redwood Library and read books the French officers read in the days of the Revolution of 1774 or the morning's Herald of 1874. If you are a lover of nature and want quiet and rest you can get it at the Point on Washington street, Colonel Higginson's old port, which, thus named, though it has a very viny and convivial flavor, is the very acme of quiet and—duliness. If you are fashionable you can have a bit of Paris and London and New York society compressed into a drive's round for your pleasure. And if you are young and girlish and deliciously foolish you can have all those pretty youths at the torpedo station to look at and fift with. What more can young lemininity ask? And what more can any one ask than to be separately suited at this rate?

SEASIDE AND COUNTRY.

Visitors are flocking to Richland Springs. Forty-eight excursions to Cape May are already

arranged. They have what they style the "Night Owl Club

at Lake Mahopac.

It is saler in the Long Branch surf to hug the

snore than your partner. Dr. Durant and wife and Mr. T. H. Drake and wife, of this city, are at Saratoga.

Chief Justice and Mrs. Waite will spend the month of August at the Ocean House, Newport. The Mountain Guide is a monthly paper just started at Kingston in the interest of the Catskil

hotels and railroad companies. At the Heath House, Schooley's Mountain, are registered General S. W. Roberts and daughter, William Kaufmann, of Philadelphia, and S. M.

Coleman, of the navy.

It is said that there is a cliff near Eternity Bay, Canada, where the likenesses of old Tecum-seh Sherman and the Fenian General O'Neill are cut on its base. That is a base insuit to loyal

Canucks. Those journals that appropriate from these columns "Seaside" notes by the wholesale have been eclipsed by the New Haven Union, which publishes a fourth of a column of them that appeared originally in the HERALD nearly two months ago.

ain House, Orange county, are Mr. G. B. Elkins and family, of Brooklyn, and A. F. Kennersley and family; A. Chopin and family, of Twenty-third street, and Alva Catman and family, of New York Among those who will sojourn this season a Milford, Pike county, Pa., are Judge Moore and

family, Mrs. Belle Weaver, John M. Hicks, importer No. 39 Walker street, and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Peck, No. 251 Washington street, Brooklyn. A party of sportsmen last week, near Stillwater, on Lake George, captured 300 shiners in one day, one trout weighing eleven pounds, another eight pounds, another nine pounds. The nine

pounder was the victim of a correspondent of the Troy Times.

At Whitestone, L. I., will be found Mrs. T. White and daughter, West Twenty-third street; George Rodenborough and family; Mrs. W. Horton and Madison avenue; Mrs. H. Rice and family, of Madison avenue, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Henderson.

YACHTING NOTES.

The sloop Katie, formerly of the Atlantic Yacnt Club, has been purchased by Mr. W. H. Burk, of Detroit, and added to the register of the International Yacht Club of that place.

The new sloop Fannie, owned by Mr. Charles H. Mallory, is lying off the foot of Court street, Brooklyn. It is the opinion of many yachtsmen who have seen her under way that her rig should be increased, as at present it is insufficient to properly

test her sailing qualities.

The new sloop being finished at the yard of Kirby, Rye, will be handed over to her owner, Mr. Daniel Edgar, Jr., in about ten days. This yacht is 70 feet on deck, 60 feet on water line and 20 feet beam. Her mainmast is 79 feet, mainboom 66 feet, gaff 36 feet, topmast 36 feet, and bowsprit, outboaro, 36

The schooner Jessie has been purchased by Dr. Bliven and added to the Brooklyn Yacht Caub fleet. The Jessie is now at the yard of Messrs. Poillor Brothers, undergoing extensive repairs. She have new masts, new sails, new rigging, and cabin will be thoroughly reconstructed and newly

have new musts, new sails, new rigging, and her cabin will be thoroughly reconstructed and newly intrinshed.

The schooner Tidal Wave, Mr. William Voorhis, N.Y.Y.C., is down from Nyack, and will soon go on a short cruise to the eastward.

The sloop Coming, Mr. R. W. Holmes, B.Y.C., has gone to Nyack for repairs. When in Oyster Bay on the Fourth Mr. Holmes received many visitors, all of whom, he says, "pronounced the boat roomy, very pleasant and a success."

The more conspicuous yachts at anchor off the foot of Court street, Brooklyn, yesterday were the lider. Columna, Peerless, Estelle, Triton, Fannie, Kate and Orion.

During the Brooklyn cruise a gig race will be rowed by representatives from the several yacht crews. At present there is a likelihood of this contest taking place in the harbor of New London, and, as in years gone by, it is expected to be pleasant and exciting. More than the usual interest will be attached to the merry struggle, inasmuch as in the gig from the yacht Sadie there will sit the well-known amateur oarsmen George Dunning and John M. Sawyer, who have already gone into training for the event.

The new sloop Corps, owned by ex-Mayor K. C. Barker, of Detroit, and built by Mr. AleGlenan, of Pamrapo, N. J., recently won two races in the waters of Put-in-Bay and Lake St. Clair. The first was on the 29th of June and was for the International flag, yachts of the border States and Canadas being allowed to compete, when the Corabeat the entire fleet and plenty to spare. Her second victory was on the Fourth of July, being the regatta of the International Yacht. Unit, of which Mr. Barker is commedore, winning the Godwin Cup. The Cora's success has minused still more flee, if that is possible, into the yachting circles of that section, and those who have owned the champion yacuts up to the time of her arrival feel much annoyed because of the Cora's speed and weatherly quali-

ties, and are now anxious to match their boats against the new comer. Mr. Barker expresses his intention of satisfying all such, and will sail them as last as time will permit. The first of these challenge races will come off on Lake St. Clair August 5, when the Cora will meet the sloop yeach Cuthburt, and, though the latter is much larger than the former, Mr. Barker thinks with equal luck he will keep the Godwin muz. Mr. Isaac McGlenan, son of the builder, sailed the Cora in her recent victories.

The Portland Yacht Club is now on its annual cruise, having left Portland on Monday morning last.

The Carolina Yacht Club, of Wilmington, N. C., held its annual regatia on the Fourth of July. It was pronounced a success. The Little Walter and Retta proved the winners.

Yacht Recreation (sloop), Mr. George A. Weber, H.Y.C., passed Whitestone yesterday asternoon, bound from New York to Stonington.

LONG BRANCH RACES.

Third Day of the First Summer Meet-

ing-Poolselling Last Evening. This is the third day of the first summer racing meeting at Monmouth Park, and, judging from the number and character of the contests, it will be an occasion of much interest. There are four events on the card, the first being a hurdle race for all ages, two miles, over eight hurdles, purse of \$500, of which \$400 goes to the first, \$75 to the second

and \$25 to the third horse. In this there are George West, 154 lbs., and Cordelia, 151 lbs. (Donahue's entries); Stock wood, 154

	George West, 154 lbs	\$35	25	50
j	Stockwood, 154 108	35	18	3
	Limestone, 148 lbs	35	11	2
	Blind Tom, 154 lbs	11	8	1
9	The same of the sa	200000	200	1000
d	Totals	114	62	12
	SELLING R			
	Joh	nson's.	Chambe	rlin's
	Kadl, 101 lbs	\$35	15	3
	Quits, 95 lbs	28	11	3
	Wizard, 95 lbs	25	5	1
	B. F. Carver, 98 lbs	20	7	1
	Visigoth, 87 lbs	13		- 2
	Utica, 103 lbs	***	5	1
	Theodora, 77 lbs			- 1
	Conductor, 104 lbs	-	-2	
		33	-	- 7
	The Field	33		
	24.1.2.4.1	-		12
	Totals		56	12
	MONMOUTH OAR		S.	STANDS NO.
	John	son's.	Chambe	CT 11 77. 1

TROTTING AT DEERFOOT PARK, L. I.

	PARK, L. L., July 7 at had never beate						
	five, in harness;						
	ond and \$50 to th						
	. m. Lady Annie			1	4	4	1
	m. Washburn Maic		7	5	2	1	2
J. Page's s. g	. Farmer Boy	8	8	4	1*	2	4
W. McMahon	sgr. g. Pollock	1	8	7	6	3	3
	b. m. Ella Madde		2	2	3	6r	.0
	m. Bessie B			3	5	51	.0
	g. W. H. Force			6	dr		
	's s. g. Harry Gibe			8	dr		
W. S. Thom's	br. g. Phil O'Nell,	Jr., a	r.				
	TIME.	20100000					
	Quarter.	Hal	J.			Hi	e.

and the second second second	TIME.			
	Quarter.	Half.	H	tle.
First heat	38	1:17	2:3	88
Second heat	40	1:19	2:3	8
Tuird heat	37	1:19	2:0	634
Fourth heat				
Fifth neat	42	1:21	2:4	23/
Sixth heat			2:3	
*Eila Madden cre	ssea the sco	re first in	2:37. 1	out
she and Lady Ann				
and Farmer Boy g	iven the he	ut. No rec	cora	ior
time.				
DEERFORT PARK,				
that have never be				
to the second, and			se; m	ile
heats, best three in	five, in har	ness.	400	
	ENTRIES.			
W. S. Thom's br. g	Phil O'Neil,	Jr 0	1 1	1
W. S. Thom's br. g C. D. Sesson's blk.	m. Lady Blad	ck Hawk 0	2 2	2
J. Murphy's br. m.	Lady Tremb	le 4	3 4	3

H. C. Eck's b. g. William H. F. H. William's b. m. Sweetmeet.	orce	3 4 3 4
E. H. Heard's cn. m. Ellen Ma W. M'Carthy's br. g. Husky Bo	ry	dr.
TIME.	3	. u
Quarter.	Half.	Mile.
First heat 39%	1:19	2:4114
Second heat 41	1:22	2:45%
Third heat 40%	1:21	2:46
Fourth heat 3914		2:45
SAME DAY Purse \$300, for		
never beaten 2:32; \$175 to	the first, s	75 to the

)/// LESSEN	s. Redwing	SINTHAN WAY THEM	
Language Control of the Control of t	Quarter.	Half.	Mile.
First heat	3914	1:18%	2:39
Second heat	40	1:19	2:3736
Third heat	38	1:14%	2:3436
Fourth heat	3914	1:17%	2:3914
Fifth heat	3914	1:1736	2:35%

TROTTING IN MAINE.

LEWISTON, July 8, 1874. The trot at Lewiston Park yesterday between King William and Pomp, to wagon, for a purse of \$200, was won by King William in three straight heats.

Time, 2:40-2:3814-2:35.

A MEMORABLE DAY.

The scheme inaugurated last summer by which

The Excursion of Hebrew Children to Staten Island.

many of the poor little waifs from the common stock of humanity for the first time saw green fields and shady groves beyond the smoke and the noise of the metropolis has been productive of lasting results. Many of these boys and girls, when grown to man's and woman's estate, will recall the bright and merry day in each long sultry summer when, utterly sans souch, they romped and swam to their hearts' content. No overbearing police disturbed their tranquillity, and the repose of exhausted youth crowned their slumbers during the night which followed. The influences and ailurements

their tranquillity, and the repose of exhausted youth crowned their slumbers during the night which followed. The influences and allurements of vice are absent for one day at least, and every little "ragamufin" returns to the city with a new sentiment aroused in his heart, and that feeling is one of gratitude. To be sure it exists only in an unknown quantity, but the awakening of the child to a realization of the fact that good, kind hear' exist in this wicked world is amply productive of good results in the future.

Such, at least, are the feelings which have inspired the formation of an excarsion of minitee, composed of a large number of weal they level inspired the formation of an excarsion of minitee, composed of a large number of weal they level inspired the formation of an excarsion of minitee, composed of a large number of weal they level inspired the formation of an excarsion of minitee, composed of a large number of weal they level inspired the formation of the city. By spontaneous and voluntar retion of the city. By spontaneous and voluntar contributions in the part of these gentlemen money was lurning. They did their work quietly, not letting their right hands know what their lett hands gave. They took with the minimal provisions and crided. They out of the many hebrew charitable minimal of all faiths, as well as those without any creeds. The youth of this season under the auspices of this committee will leave the foot of least Seventy Ann. street at eight A. M. and the foot of Lass' Eighth street at hall-past eight A. M., or Myers' Grove, Staten Island. The orphans of the men who lell in the war of the rebellion have been invited, as they were last year, and will go. Abundance of provisions and truits will be provided on board the barge William Jay Haskett. The committee hope to send two of three more excursion parties, similar to this one, down the bay or up Long Island Sound during the summer. All desiring to contribute toward this charity should forward their letters to Henry Solomon, No, 71 Leon

THE COMET.

Another Night of Gloomy Cloudiness.

Great Expectations of the Astronomers.

VIEWS OF VARIOUS CORRESPONDENTS.

What English Royalty Thinks of the Phenomenon.

Last night was murky, and the bine vault, stars, comet and all were screened from observation. This was a pity, because, according to the calculations of the astronomers, the tall should have undergone such an elongation as to be visible to the most naked eye. Some conspiracy is on foot among the jealous constellations of the heavens to deprive us of a square, honest look at her Celestial Highness. That they are envious of the admiration which both hemispheres of this globe are now paying to the nebulous stranger is evident from the conduct of the Great Bear.

THE GREAT BEAR'S NOSE. The comet, it would seem, pulled the nose of the Great Bear, and everything has been topsy-turvy in the heavens since then. The Twins have been very troublesome, distracting the attention of the comet ever and anon from her regular course, and as for the Lion, he has been laying in wait for years past to pounce upon the tail of the comet. The great friend of the latter was Mercury. Only for him it is hard to say what might nave become of her. But she is all right now and intends to keep so for the remainder of her journey.

AMONG THE PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH. The natives of Bucks county, Pennsylvania, are greatly exercised over the cometary visitation. They are well aware that Andrew Jackson is now President of the United States, and they fear that the appearance of this comet means war on the General's part against England, France and Russia. The German residents of Bucks county are troubled with a superstitutous belief that the comet means the mighty shade of Napoleon I, coming back from St. Helena to avenge the blunders of his nephew. In the South it is thought the return of Jeff Davis and the appearance of the comet make an ominous coincidence.

and the appearance of the comet make an ominous coincidence.

ENGLISH BOYALTY ON THE COMET.

The Prince of Wales was approached by a reporter in London and asked his opinion of the comet. He said he had none to give; but his brother, the Duke of Connaught, who was well acquainted with Brian Borolime, whose star, as Tom Moore said, never on the battlefield had set, might lurnish all the desired information. The Duke of Connaught said he had seen the Great Bear in his last visit to Russia and quite a number of minor constellations, but hang him if he saw any comet. If, as he observed, they intend to make me permanent Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, I shall study up the subject.

Professor Chapman says that the light of the tail is so faint that he has not succeeded in getting any spectrum of it. When a telescope is directed to the tail the worst of it is you see through it. You see no tangible object, only a faint, diffused light. And the more powerful the telescope you employ the more you don't see anything at all.

PRINCIPLE OF THE SPECTRUM.

The principle of the spectrum is in need of some-explanation. According to one astronomer every substance in nature may be burned. While it is burning it gives out a light whose wave length is different from every other substance. The waves of one burning substance, therefore, travel more quickly than those of another burning substance, and this difference is detected by the prism. Those that travel lastest go to the violet end of the prism, and those which travel slowest to the red end, the waves of intermediate velocities going to the blue, green and yellow. If this were all, however, the spectrum would be of ittle use in science. But these facts are supplemented by one of a most remarkable character. Where light has to pass through the vapor of any sub-

were all, however, the spectrum would be of little use in science. But these lacts are supplemented by one of a most remarkable character. Where light has to pass through the vapor of any substance a dark line appears in the place where the bright line would appear if the substance were incandescent. The dark lines in the solar spectrum, therefore, prove to us not only that iron, soda, gold, potassium, &c., are burning in the sun, but that the sphere of light is surrounded by a cloud composed of the vapors of all these bodies.

WHAT THE DUDLEY OBSERVATORY THINKS.

We have an observatory at Albauy called the Dudley Observatory, and the whole force of the institution concluded the evening before last that, as seen in the equatorial telescope, the tail had a length of three and one-half degrees, or about seven times the diameter of the moon. The nucleus was bright as a star of the fourth magnitude. As noticed in the sun's direction, and was fan-shaped, with the apex, which is the brightest part, toward the tail. Surrounding this nucleus is the come or envelope, of a milky color. Which is elongated in a direction from the sun into a tail. The tail spreads out quite wide, and near its end several strat of the eighth and tentn magnitude are distinctly seen through it, On the side of the nucleus, opposite to the sun, is a dark streak of the width of the nucleus dividing the tail for about one-third of its length. These telescopic appearances are similar to what was telescopic appearances are similar to what was seen in the great comet of 1858.

The nucleus, from which the cometary matter flows, has the appearance of emitting from its brightest portion a stream of material which takes the form of a gas flame of a fan shape, and which gradually loses its brilliancy until it is lost in the coma, making it impossible to decide where it ceases.

Observations Obscured at the National

Observatory.
Washington, July 8, 1874. The night was unfavorable for observation of the comet. A thin strata of clouds obscured the path "Old Codger," until he disappeared below the horizon. There were a number of visitors at the observatory, all of whom went away disappointed at the announcement that the comet was not visible even through the strong

comet was not visible even through the strong riasses.

Credulous people begin to believe that the comet is a sad omen; that Indian wars, hydrophobia, financial distress and the possibility of a third ferm for Grant will all be due to the interference of this heavenly mystery.

At the Weather Bureau no one has yet been able to discover the sugartest trace of atmospherical induence on account of the comes.

Nautical View of the Comet.

[From a London Letter.].
We were told by a celebrated naval officer the following anecdote :- On one of his cruises the sailors saw a comet, and were somewhat surprised and ors saw a comet, and were somewhat surprised and alarmed at its appearance. The hands met and appointed a committee to wait upon the commander and ask his opinion of it. They approached him and said:—
"We want to ask your opinion, Your Honor,"
"Well, my boys, what is it about?"
"New, before I answer you, let me know what you think of It."
"Well, Your Honor, we have talked it all over,

"Well, Your Honor, we have talked it all over, and we think it is a star sprung aleak."

Professor Safford, of Chicago, Gives His Opinion.
[Prom the Chicago Tribune, July 6.]

Nervous lau es and gentlemen who have begun lately to attend prayer meetings with unusual disgence and zeal will be relieved on learning that the tail of the comet will not come nearer to the earth, than 21,000,000 miles. At this distance it with the difficult for the flukes to reach anybody in this neighborhood. Professor Safford has
made the estimate given above. He is a competent astronomer, and may safely be trusted. Even
if the earth should pass through the tail of the
comet there would probably be no sensible phenomenon. Professor Safford further informed a
Tribune reporter who questioned him on these
points that the perihelion passage is likely to be
later rather than sooner; that there is no established relation between the distance of a comet from
the sun at the time of its passage and the length
of its tail; that the outline of the tail has more
the shape of a catenary than of a conoid- in revointion; that we cannot equare the length of the
tail against its breadth by any system of co-ordinates. If this is not enough to dissipate all
alarm there is no use of talking more about it.
Some people will not listen to a clear, simple
statement of facts when once an apprehension of
bodily injury is aroused. be difficult for the fluxes to reach any-

Very Badly Scared. TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD :-

The saying, "'Tis but a step from the sublime to the ridiculous," is fully shown by the manner in which certain writers are discussing with levity and ridicule the visitation of the stranger comet to our solar system. I would not awaken in any mind the emotion of dread or childish fear; but there are certain circumstances connected with the appearance of this comet which are well calculated to inspire, if not awe, at least soberness of thought and reflection,

a cannon bail. In view of these lacts, no wonder scientific men are puzzled and anxious about the stranger.

The effects of the visit of this comet may be terribly serious and awe-inspiring. Frightful tornadoes may sweep over our earth like the besom of destruction, laying waste whole towns and cities; and what now promises to be one of the most bountiful harvests ever known may be blasted by biting frosts or cut down by storms of hail, while the ocean may be stream with wrecks from sweeping hurricanes. All this may happen, and what is still more dreadful to contemplate is the effect that the contact of the comet with our earth may produce upon the surrounding atmosphere. It is a well known scientific fact that the atmosphere is composed of two most inflammable elements, oxygen and nitrogen, united in a certain proportion, and that when by any cause this proportion shall be destroyed the whole body of circumambleat air will ignite and explode like a vast magazine, in an instant, "in the twhishing of an eye," around the whole earth, like a fash of fightning, producing an intense heat—a heat oy which the grante hills and mountains shall be dissolved like snow—all animal and vegectable life be instantly destroyed, and the whole earth or reduced to a hissing, sectiling, bothing body of molten mass, with a temperature of 1,500 earth oe reduced to a hissing secthing, blody of molten mass, with a temperature of degrees realrenniet, an earth unitse the Byron's deam—"which was not all a dream."

The bright sun was extinguished, and the stars Did wander darkling in the eternal space, Rayless and pathless, and the ley earth Swung blind and blackening in the moonless air. Swing blind and blackening in the moonless air.

No, no; our earth will then be no such ley earth as that; but, on the other hand, a blazing body—a comet! which, losing its centripetal force, shall dart away from its orbit in the line of a tangent, dashing and careering on through space throughout myriads on ages. So Mark Twain and his excursionists may possibly take a ride on a comet not so much to their pleasure as they might wish.

J. S. D. J. S. D. J. S. D. J. S. D.

Seeing so much in your paper about comets and

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:-

the wonderful theories in regard to them, I desire although making no pretensions as an astronomer. to give my theory, which no doubt has been thought of by our learned men, but cast aside as too commonplace for men of their cloth, who would rather theorize on comets being composed of matter so transparent that they can be through as a glass, or matter so loosely held together that stars can be seen on the other side of them through the spaces in their matter, like looking through a sieve, or they would rather much, for when condensed they are nothing more than a handful. Becoming rather muddled with

much, for when condensed they are nothing more than a handful. Becoming rather muddled with all these vivid theories and believing it will not add much to the muddle, I am desirous of giving my theory, which, although crudely expressed and commonplace, has at least as much common sense in it as some of the theories advanced. To explain my theory, which, of course, is the correct one, I will commence thusly: Away on the outskirts of our solar system are, we are told by astronomers, planets like Uranus, Neptune and perhaps others which are removed a few miles still intriber from the sun, and seemingly cannot receive from our sun all the light and heat requisite. Now during the motion of these distant planets of our system, in their orbits around the sin, they must come within the influence of the light and heat for other suns, thereby receiving from these outside suns all the light and heat necessary, and especially so, too, as we are taught to believe that all the fixed stars are suns to other systems. Now, if this theory is correct (and why not?), the tail part of the business is soon disposed of. Thus scientists say that the almosphere of the earth reaches beyond it forty-five miles; why not 4,500? Also those planets of our system which are so mech in the removed from the sun than the earth are much larger, and no doubt have a sleeper and denser atmosphere. Then, when one of these planets of our system comes sufficiently near a sun of some other system the light of that sun, shining on this denser atmosphere, has precisely the same effect to the eye as a Drummond fight on a foggy night, only the atmosphere, being denser near the body of the planet, is brightest there, and fades away as the atmosphere, being denser near the body of the pianet, is brightest there, and fades away as the atmosphere of the planet becomes more rarified, causing it to appear to planets in that other system as a comet does to us. You can now perceive from the above that my idea is that other system as a comet does to us. You can now p

THE COMET OF 1811.

The Great Earthquake in the Mississippi Valley-Hugricanes and Shipwreck on the Atlantic Coast-A Brilliant Skyrocket.

The comet of 1811, of which so little has been said, attracted great attention in the United States and was of extraordinary brilliancy. It was attended by some very remarkable convulsions of nature, and it was said at the time that it reached a point within 49,000 miles of the surface of the sun. It was visible for the first time on the 7th of September, 1811, and its situation was calculated by Professor Wood, of William and Mary College, Virginia, to be in the same line with the Polar Star. The diameter of its body, exclusive of tail, appeared time to the 21st of September its distance from the sun increased as well as its brightness and tail. The comet was supposed to have passed its perinelion between the 4th and 12th of the month with the amazing velocity of 400,000 miles per hour. It could be plainly seen in the evening during the month of October. Prior to its appearance there were unusual commotions in the earth and the atmosphere in a variety of ways. A Both the American and European seacoasts, as well as many parts of the interior of those continents, were unusually harassed by tremendous hurricanes and storms of rain and hall and a strange agitation of the atmosphere was noticed. But the most remarkable phenomenon attending the comet of 1811 was the earthquake of New Madrid, in the Valley of the Mississippi, which destroyed nearly 200 miles of the navigation of that river. It presented one of the few examples of the incessant trembling of the ground for several successive months PAR AWAY PROM ANY VOLCANO.

Over an extent of country stretching for 300 miles from the mouth of the Ohio River the ground rose and sunk, and lakes were formed and again drained. The surface burst open in fissures that were sometimes over half a mile long; from these fissures mud and water were thrown as high as the tops of the trees. During the continuance of these convulsions the inhabitants distinguished two classes of movements—the vertical and horizontal. The latter were regarded as far more desolating than the former. The disturbance continued over what has been since called the ... shink

lating than the former. The disturbance continued over what has been since called the sunk country" until March, 1812, when they cased. An eye-witness states that subsequently to some of the severest shocks the faters of the Mississippi were so strongly impregnated with the emuvis of matter supposed to have undergone combustion as to be unfit for use; that the bed of the Mississippi was thrown upward in a humber of places formerly deemed unlatathomable so high as to impede the navigation; that in a sandbar that had lately made its appearance there was discovered a large quantity of coal, and that the forests adjacent were broken down by the abruptness of the unnulatory movements of the earth. The post road between Natchez and Nashville was covered with several hilocks of fine white sand which had been protruded upward to the surface of the grouns. A considerable tract of country was inundated with water waist deep, through which the terrified inhabitants were forced.

To waper to Hielder Lands for Safety. The water was so warm as to evidence the previous action of subterranean fire, and so strongly unctured with combustible matter as to resemble fluids impregnated with priverized guipowder, and a mountain of considerable height had arisen in one night from the level of what had been before a plain. Similar convuisions extended to a greater or less degree over the Middle, Southern and Western States. A dreadult tornado passed over the city of Charleston, S. C., which was marked in its course by destruction and death. Several hurricanes were experienced off the American coast, which dismissed and otherwise severely injured many vessels at sea, and some were totamy wrecked. A violent shock of earthquake, feit at Nashville, Tenn, in october, 1811, caused great damage. But it was in the West Indies and South America that the neaviest calamities occurred. The city of Caracas was almost entirely destroyed by an earthquake and over 12,000 of the inhabitants killed. A terrible volcano birst out near the Island of St. Mi

OUR GRANDFATHERS' OPINIONS. OUR GRANDFATHERS OFINIONS.

The opinion as to the causes of these violent outbreaks that prevailed among American scientate men over sixty years since was that they were produced by terrestrial and celestial electricity; that from the moverful affinity of the two finds

And, first, it is unlike all other comets known to man in these respects that it has never visited our system before; never has been predicted by astronomers; is extremely erratic in its orbit, which is parabolic to an unprecedented extent compared with the orbits of any other known comets, and that its course is now otheretly towards our earth at a velocity loo times greater than a cannon bail. In view of these facts, no wonder scientific men are puzzled and anxious about the stranger.

The effects of the visit of this comet may be terribly serious and awa-inspiring. Frightful tornados may sweep over our earth like the besond of destruction, laying waste whole towns and cities; and what now promises to be one of the most boundful harvests ever known may be blisted by bitting frosts or cut down by storms of hail, while the ocean may be strewn with wrecks from sweeping hurricanes. All this may happen, and what is still more dreadful to contemplate is the effect that the contact of the comet with our earth may produce upon the scientific fact that the contact of the comet with our earth may produce upon the scientific fact that the account of the comet with our earth may produce the comet was well under a cloud, first or the scientific more dreadful to contemplate is the effect that the contact of the comet with our earth may produce the contemplate is the effect that the contact of the comet with our earth may produce the contemplate is the effect of the contemplate is the effect that the contact of the comet with our earth may produce the contemplate is the effect of such a meeting with our earth may produce the contemplate is the content with our earth may produce the contemplate is the content of the content with our earth may produce the comet with our earth may produce the content with our earth may produce the content of the content with our earth may produce the content with our earth may produce the content with our earth may recome the content with our earth may be estimated to produce a second or the m

THE BLOODY SHIRT.

An Important Discovery at the Nathan Mansion, on Twenty-third Street-A Probable Clew to the Murder. During the past two or three weeks, as previ-

ously noted in the HERALD, workmen have been engaged in demolishing the front wall and making changes within the long-deserted Nathan mansion, on Twenty-third street, near Fifth avenue, with a view to transforming the structure into a store. To-day probably the last block of the handsome brown stone front will be torn down and the material shipped away. The room in which the mysterious murder was perpetrated some years ago, and where the rich Nathan breathed his last, is now fully exposed to public view, and hundreds of passers-by that way, who have not jet forgotten the horrible crime committed within those walls, stop on the sidewalk and street and inquire of others "Which is the room in which Nathan was murdered?" and there they stan I for some time gazing abstractedly upon the inside walls, seemingly thinking that they (the walls) could tell something of the crime so long locked up in some living or dead bosom. But dead men tell no tales, we hear, and it is not strange if brick do not. But if they could! A HERALD reporter passing by the build-

and it is not strange if brick do not. But if they could! A Herald reporter passing by the building yesterday met Mr. F. H. Seagrist, the contractor, who lives on East Nineteenth street and who revealed an incident which of itself if not of sufficient importance to give a new ciew to the perpetration of the crime, which has for so many years been suronded in the darkest mystery, is, at any rate, of sufficient interest to deserve mention. Day before yesterday, it seems, according to Mr. Seagrist's story, as the dumb waiter was being moved from its position—the position doubtiess which it had occupied since the night of the tragedy—a workman discovered concealed in it a Mystrenous package,
which, to appearance, had been there for years. Naturally enough, his curiosity was aroused, though slightly at first, until he drew the strange builde out of its dark corner, and on a hasty giance perceived it to be a night shirt, completely dyed with blood. Mr. Seagrist then had his attention directed to the discovery and showed it to some riends yesterday, and many were the conjectures with regard to it and its former possessor. It is nothing more nor less than a common nightshirt, made of rather coarse linen, and one of the sieeves had the appearance of having been torn or cut considerably in an effort to get it away from some person's body. It is not merely stained, but looks as though it had been dipped in blood. Several must be the identical nightshirt worn by

"THE DECKASED NATHAN
on the night of his victon's body the night be committed the horriole crime, and, in a moment of excitement, had it where it was revealed so recently. It is more than probable that if it had come in possession of the police it would subsequently have been produced. Can it be possible that the bloody shirt will afford a new clew to the mysterious murder? Up to last evening the police that no been advised of the discovery by Mr. Seagrist, who has taken the relic in cuarge, and who will, no doubt, wilningly exhiout it to any persons desiring to s

THE WESTCHESTER DEFALCATION.

No Tidings Yet of the Greenburg Receiver of Taxes-A Compromise Effected with His Bondsmen-Developments Regarding the Absconder.

Nothing has as yet been learned touching the whereabouts of Daniel King, the Receiver of Taxes for Greenburg, Westchester county, whose disappearance and defaication were set forth in the HEBALD of yesterday. A meeting of the sureties, numbering some twenty-two, who went on his bond for \$300,000, was held at Dobb's Ferry on Tuesday evening, at which it was announced that the absconder's books, upon examination, showed a deficiency of \$6,400. In addition to this amount King's accounts return taxes "not received" \$18,000, and it cannot be definitely known for several months bow much, if any, of this sum has been appropriated by the missing defaulter. It seems that King, who

much, if any, of this sum has been appropriated by the missing defaulter. It seems that King, who was one of the most popular republicans in his town, owns a house and lot at Ashford, worth about \$2,500, and on which there is a mortgage of \$1,000. His bond was of course a lien on the property, and the Sheriff had aiready taken steps towards its public sale. To save this for the wife and children of the absconder, his lather has offered the sureties half of the amount (\$6,400) known to be taken, which offer was at once accepted by them. The remaining half with be made good to the county by King's bondsmen.

It now appears that King's employer, a pickle manufacturer in Barclay street, New York, paid him \$3,500 on the 1st inst., the absconder representing to him that he was desirous of settling up his accounts at White Plains. Other little matters have leaked out regarding King's habits when visiting the city, which tend to disprove the reputation he enjoyed among his friends as a faithful and affectionate husband and father. A "female friend," who was in the nabit of sharing the hospitalities of a turnisned room, which, it is asserted, he kept in New York, has been discovered, but she denies having seen King since he has left home. As the missing man was Grand Master of a Masonic lodge in the town of Greenburg many of his fraternal friends strennously maintain that his disappearance is involuntary; that he must have imprudently visited some objectionable piaces in the city, and, after exhibiting the funds in his possession, was drugged and perhaps murdered by the human vultures who are ever on the lookout for such desirable prey. This theory is scouted, however, by the general public, and especially by sogne of his victimized suretics, with whom the writer conversed yesterday. In the language of Justice Smith, of Hastings (who was alone of King's bondsmen). "He knows what he's about, and wherever he is there is a good jooking woman alongsaide of him." The absconder is about driving rears of land has a wife and di

A VIRAGO'S VENGEANCE.

Henry Pract, of No. 1,514 Third avenue, was ar raigned before Judge Bixby, at Essex Market, vesterday, charged with the commission of an indecent assault upon Josephine Patterson, of No. 174 East Fourth street. Josephine claims to be the wife of Philip Pract, a brother of the accused. He

wife of Pulip Pract, a brother of the accused. He was arrested on a warrant by officer Dakin, of the Court squad, and a hearing had yesterday afternoon. Pract's brother appeared as a witness in the prisoner's behalf, and stated to the Court that the complainant was of very bad character and could not be believed under oath. Josephine is petite in stature, with piercing black eyes and prepossessing appearance. Her lineaments, however, are laminar to the attaches of the Court, she having figured in the same role several times previously, naving preferred similar charges against various individuals.

Judge Bixby, having carefully listened to the testimony, decided the accusation to be groundless and ordered Pract's discharge. Josephine was so indignant at the decision of the Justice that she determined on revenging herself on the dendant on the spot. She mist have anticipated the action of the migistrate, or she had concealed on her person a quantity of cayenne peoper, which she designed throwing in Pract's face and binding him. Fortunately, he was warned in time, and, placing a book in front of his face, the dendan purpose of Josephine was frustrated and he exapped injury. Officer Dakin, who witnessed the assault, at once arrested her, and on a complaint of disorderly conduct she was committed by the Judge to the Island for one month.

KINGS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

KINGS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS. Appointment of Three Commissioners of Charitles.

A stormy session was held yesterday afternoon by the Kings County Board of Supervisors over the appointment of candidates to fill the vacancies in the Board of Commissioners of Charities cre-ted by the conviction and removal of Commisated by the conviction and removal of Commissioners Wills, Ferguson and Poweil. Ex-Aiderman John Raber was appointed Commissioner or the Turd District, Wymant C. Bennett, of Bay Ridge, for the Fifth District, and Hasson H. Wheeler for the Second District. The appointers are all democrats. This selection gives a gain of one to that party. Commissioner whis hemos a cambicant.